of this one per cent or half a per cent decline in availability, by 20 per cent or 30 per cent or 40 per cent or 50 per cent or even by 100 per cent. Therefore, I would enquire from the hon. Minister Whether, in view of the sweeping discontent of the people all over the country, they would kindly retrace their steps in the matter of agricultural exports.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, it is not possible for me to make any sweeping policy statement in the Question Hour. The hon. Minister will get an opportunity for expressing his views in regard to the policy matter of exports. But, so far as this particular item is concerned,—let us confine ourselves to it—a large number of our people like to have Indian ghee, and they like to have Indian butter, the quantum of which I have referred to. Out of the total quantum of exports of 299 tonnes during April—October, butter amounts to six tonnes and the rest 293 tonnes is ghee. Similarly, in the case of pulses, we do have shortage in pulses. But we allow some export of pulses in order to meet the ethnic requirements of the Indian settled abroad. And there is no inherent contradiction of importing and exporting the same commodity in order to maintain balance.

SHRI JAGESH DESAI : Mr. Chairman, Sir, three months back, when I wanted to buy ghee from the Dairy here, the price of it was Rs. 80 per kg. Yesterday, I bought it at Rs. 110 per kg. And for two months, ghee was not available at all. So, I would like to know whether the interests of the local consumers also will be taken into consideration, or not because once you export it the prices go up. For instance, if you export rice, because of speculation, the price rises. Similar is the case in mangoes. Will the Government take into account the interests of the consumers or not ?

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Sir, the Government will have to take into account the interests of the Indian consumers. And the Government will have to take into account the interests of the producers. Therefore, the Government will have to take an integrated approach to protect the interests of the consumers as well as of the producers. Keeping that in view, we have also permitted the import of butter oil, the figure of which I have already given.

SHRI S. MURASOLI MARAN. Sir, I want to shift the attention of the hon. Minister from the export of table butter to the import of cowdung Recently, Sir, we had seen a news item in which it was reported that cowdung was being imported from one of the Scandinavian Countries.

What made it necessary when we are an agricultural country and when are opposing any stuff of that kind ? There is an agitation going on in Delhi and other places. Will the Minister explain to me as to how many tonnes. of....(*Interruptions*)....

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE : Not a single ounce and it will not be allowed.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Question Hour is over.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Payment to Government of Karnataka for medical care under E.S.I.

*64. SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR:Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation has decided to make advance payment to the Karnataka Government for medical care ;

(b) if so, the amount released towards final instalment ending June, 1994; and

(c) the amount proposed to be released during 1994-95 to Karnataka by ESI Corporation for medical care ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 340.35 lakhs.

(c) Rs. 1361.42 lakhs (estimated).

बेरोजगार युवकों का शोषण

*65. **श्री रामदेव भंडारी :** क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को जानकारी है कि दिल्ली के व्यापारिक प्रतिष्ठानों द्वारा श्रमिकों और उच्च शिक्षा प्राप्त युवकों से एक दिन में दस से बारह घंटे तक काम लेकर उनसे पूरे भुगतान की रसीदें प्राप्त करने के उपरांत केवल आधी मजदूरी का ही भुगतान करके उनको बेरोजगारी का अनुचित लाभ उठाया जा रहा है और इस प्रकार उनका शोषण किया जा रहा है ;

(ख) इस संबंध में चालू वर्ष के दौरान अब तक कितनी शिकायतें मिली हैं तथा उन पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ; और

(ग) सरकार ने इस प्रकार के शोषण को रोकने के लिये क्या उपाय किये है ?

श्रम मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० ए० संगमा): (क) से (ग) राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली सरकार से प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार, दिल्ली के व्यापारिक प्रतिष्ठानों द्वारा शिक्षित बेरोजगार युवकों से एक दिन में दस से बारह घंटे काम लेकर और उन्हें आधी मजदूरी का भुगतान करके तथा उनसे पूरे भुगतान की रसीदें प्राप्त करके शोषण किये जाने के बारे में कोई भी विशिष्ट शिकायत प्राप्त नहीं हुई है। जनवरी-अक्तूबर, 1994 की अवधि के दौरान राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली सरकार को, सामान्यतया, अतिरिक्त कार्य घंटों, अवैध छंटनी तथा निर्धारित न्यूनतम मजदूरी से कम भुगतान करने के संबंध में 9345 शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं। न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम, 1948 के अन्तर्गत 310 नियोजकों के विरुद्ध अभियोजन मामले दायर किये गये थे और परिणामस्वरूप कर्मकारों को 52,62,159/- रु० के बराबर, धनराशि अदा की जानी थी। इसके अलावा दुकान एवं प्रतिष्ठान अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत जनवरी से अक्तूबर, 1994 की अवधि के दौरान प्रतिष्ठानों को खोलने और बन्द करने के लिये निर्धारित समय का पालन न करने के लिये 14,644 दुकानों और व्यापारिक प्रतिष्ठानों के चालान किये गये थे।

Rise in prices of foodgrains in PDS

*66 DR. BAPU KALDATE :
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) what is the percentage of rise in the prices of foodgrains sold through Public Distribution System during 1992, 1993 and 1994 (till date) and

(b) the extent to which the sale of foodgrains came down in 1994 due to the rise in its prices and the low purchasing power of the poor beneficiaries of the PDS ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI A. K. ANTONY) : (a) The percentage increase in the CIP